

## MAYOR ADMITS BUDGET WORRY

Tells Realty Men City Faces \$14,000,000 Share of Direct State Tax.

### AT SEA ON PLANS TO MEET INCREASE

Says Real Estate Is Burdened to Limit—Denies That Income Impost Is Planned.

Almost one thousand members and guests of the Real Estate Board of New York last night at the Waldorf heard Mayor Mitchell and Controller Prendergast assail the direct state tax measure proposed in the Legislature.

"There is now a great problem of municipal government before me, as an Executive, and before you real estate men, as a part of the citizenship of New York. We are soon to be called upon to make a budget for 1916, and the prospect of this tax is the cause for alarm."

This has been estimated variously at from \$15,000,000 to \$22,000,000, and as this city pays 70 per cent of the taxes of the state, it will mean that approximately \$14,000,000 will have to be written into the 1916 budget if the measure is approved.

Mayor Mitchell said one of three courses must be contemplated to equalize the effects of this measure when the budget is made next month.

He must either increase the tax rate, develop some new sources of revenue, or reduce in amount or character the service the city government is now rendering.

The first I am loath to do,

because I am aware that real estate is not burdened heavily enough, about as heavily as it can be."

Regarding the second plan, recently made public, of taking incomes above \$2,000, the Mayor said nothing had yet been proposed by the Legislature.

But he said the real estate men that something must be done to permit the city to carry the increased burden with out increasing the present tax on real estate.

He defended the present administration as having made good its campaign pledges of a programme of strict business economy and the application of strict business principles to a whole field of activities. He also told of the increased 1916 budget, due to conditions over which the city had no control, and gave as reasons for the raise the increase in the Department of Education, an addition in account of taxes declared by the board to be uncollected, and a larger debt service. The last, he added, was due to a number of bonds issued to pay for public improvements incurred by former city administrations.

"The people of the city," said Controller William A. Prendergast, "have been greatly disturbed by the possibility of the state tax. There are no reliable figures upon which its amount can be predicted, and its only justification can be found in the fact that the state has discovered that it cannot finish the large canal under the appropriation already made."

"I can discover no reason why the City of New York should be asked so abruptly to make the changes in taxation of the most direct of the state. If all the former appropriations for the canal were made by fifty-year bonds, who should the men at Albany now turn to a direct state tax?"

The Controller urged the necessity of New Yorkers uniting in action that would prevent this set being sanctioned by the legislature. He suggested that the Senators and Assemblies from this city should not be made to assume this unusual burden at a time when it is to be avoided.

Dr. Laurence Melting, president of the board, pointed out that in the last year real estate men had been treated courteously by city officials, who had given the proper consideration to suggestions and recommendations. He also showed the evil effects of creating antagonism between tenant and landlord, and said that the time was past when there should be the heartiest co-operation between real estate interests and the city and state government.

Among the guests at the dinner were George C. Boldt, Stewart Brown, City Chamberlain Henry Briscoe, Wilbur C. Fisk, Judge Frank Bradstock, Franklin Pettit, Elbridge G. Snow, General Louis W. Stotesbury and borough presidents.

**War Pipe for Murphy's Foes.**

The new Harlem Democratic Club (anti-Tammany) will hold an entertainment and smoker Friday evening at the West End Restaurant, 125th st., near Seventh ave. More than 200 "independents" will be entertained at the dinner, which will include Dudley Field Malone, Collector of the Port, Stuart G. Gibbons, Franklin Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and Frank Polk, Corporation Counsel. The new club was started by Isaac Steinberg, a former loyal Tammanyite who deserted the Murphy crowd at the last election after he had resigned as Tammany leader of the 31st Assembly District.

His ticket, which was found by a steward on his unopened bed in station room 232, read from Back Bay Station, Boston, to this city, and would have been taken up by the collector if the man had left the boat. A package containing a shirt, two collars, and a tie also lay on the bed beside a half dozen shirts.

**STEAMERS AT FOREIGN PORTS.**

ARRIVED:

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Liverpool, Feb. 11. In. in. in. in. New York.

Bremen, Feb. 12. In. in. New York.

Cape Town, Feb. 13. In. in. New York.

Manila, Feb. 14. In. in. New York.

Montevideo, Feb. 15. In. in. New York.

Colombia, Feb. 16. In. in. New York.

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